

## Old-Timer says There are Few Good Ring Fighters Nowadays

In the opinion of many veteran ring followers America appears to be going back in a pugilistic way, while for the first time in many years England seems to be coming to the front with really first class pugilists. Tom O'Rourke, who handled Dixon, Walcott and Sharkey when those pugilists were in their prime, is among those who hold this belief, and he has some excellent arguments.

"There are few really good fighters in America nowadays," said O'Rourke to The Sun man the other night, "and why? Because the American fighters are losing their grit, it seems, while England is suddenly developing skilful pugilists. I cannot account for it, but it is true nevertheless. Still in the next ten years America is likely to come back with a new crop of fighters who will beat the world."

To back up the opinion of O'Rourke and others it may be said that, taking the cases of Tommy Burns and Jack Johnson, neither would have been able to cope successfully eight years ago with such "heavyweights" as Jeffries, Fitzsimmons, Corbett and Sharkey. Burns would not have had a chance with any of these once-great pugilists, either in science or physical strength. Jeffries, in the opinion of practically every competent ring expert, would have stopped Burns in half a dozen rounds, if not in quicker time. Fitzsimmons, with his wonderful punches, might have disposed of Burns in fifteen, as he disposed of such fighters as Jim Hall, Dan Creedon, Sharkey and Rudolph, for Burns in his best, say the critics, would have been outclassed in many ways by the Cornishman. Sharkey, with his rugged physique and hard hitting, which put such a clever man as Kid McCoy away, would have worn Burns down and out, practically when it is called that Burns could not stop such men as Philadelphia Jack O'Brien and Marvin Hart in twenty round bouts. How long would O'Brien or Hart have lasted in fights with Jeffries, Fitz or Sharkey? Corbett, with his wonderful cleverness, would also have made a monkey of Burns, the sharp insler, and so would Kid McCoy. The same goes for Johnson, even though he is a 200 pounder and probably the cleverest 175 man in the ring at the present time.

Would Stanley Ketchel and Bill Papke, the best middleweight in America today, have been in it with such title holders as Jack Dempsey, Fitzsimmons and Tommy Ryan? This query is answered in the negative by the veterans who have studied what is known as pugilistic class for years. Dempsey was a wonderful pugilist in his best days, scientific, game and a terrific hitter. So was Fitz, who weighed only 150 pounds when he won the heavyweight championship from Corbett at Carson City. Surely say the experts, Fitzsimmons could have successfully defended the middleweight title in a bout with Ketchel or Papke, both good sluggers but lacking in the scientific points of the game which made the Cornishman famous. Tommy Ryan too would have outlasted Ketchel, the boxing sharp, for when he was fit he was one of the greatest boxers and ring generals in the world. It was Ryan who taught Jeffries how to fight. Fitzsimmons successfully, which was an achievement denoting brains and skill. Ryan beat many tough customers in his time and was a rugged, plucky fighter who never knew the meaning of a yellow streak.

Joe Walcott was the undisputed welterweight champion of the world ten years ago. He beat not only men in that class, but knocked out middleweights, including Creedon and several heavyweights, notably Joe Cheveski. At his best he was a phenomenal two handed fighter who would have easily beaten such writers as Mike (Twin) Sullivan, the present champion; Honey Melody, Matty Matthews and Ruben Ferns. Those who remember Walcott as "the Giant Killer" say that it will be many years before the ring sees his equal at the weight.

What would Jack McAuliffe or Kid Lavigne have done to Battling Nelson, the present lightweight champion, Joe Gans, Paddy McFarland, Freddie

Welsh and a few others who are prominent in that class nowadays? Ask this question of any old time ring follower and he will reply that McAuliffe could have whipped Nelson and Gans in the same ring on the same night and that Lavigne would have had things just as easy. McAuliffe, the veteran declare, was the greatest lightweight that ever put up his hands while they also say that he had a worthy successor in Lavigne. There was nothing flimsy about Lavigne's work in the ring. He was clever and cool, but he was also a natural born fighter who enjoyed slugging and who could hit like a pile driver. Lavigne showed his wonderful gameness when he beat Walcott at special weights over at Maspeth in the old days, for after being beaten to a pulp in nine rounds Lavigne came back and punched the negro into a helpless condition in the fifteenth and last round. Lavigne was cut to pieces, but he won with plenty to spare. His long fight with Jack Everhardt at the Bohemian Sporting Club, in which he scored a knockout in the twenty-fourth round, was another test, for Lavigne came out of the mill with both eyes closed and a broken nose.

Gans was fighting well in those days, meeting Spike Sullivan, George McFadden and Frank Erne among others, but he never tackled Lavigne, who finally because of disapproval lost his title on a decision to Erne. It was after all these good lightweight fighters disappeared from the public view that Gans forced to the front. He became lightweight champion of the world, the veterans say, because he had an inferior lot of pugilists to beat, among them being Fritz, a good boxer, but nothing more. Nelson, a fighter from the ground up, beat Gans when he was practically at the end of his career, but not before Gans had stood him off and beaten him on a foul forty-four rounds of hard fighting.

Also Atell is the featherweight champion of America. He is a superb boxer, but only a fair puncher. Would he have classed with the remarkable George Dixon, who held the title for so many years? Or could he have beaten the evasive Terry McGovern when the latter was at top notch and had won the featherweight title by putting Dixon to sleep? Would Young Corbett, after stepping McGovern, have been an easy mark for Atell? And Dave Sullivan? Corbett Atell have put it all over him? Old timers say no with emphasis when asked all of these questions, and they think they speak by the card.

Going back a few years the experts declare that there will never be another bantamweight champion like Jimmy Barry, or Chicago. They say that Barry could have knocked out such present day bantams as Johnny Conlin, Jimmy Walsh and Patsy Kline in five minutes and wouldn't have overexerted himself either.

The assertion of O'Rourke and others that England is coming to the front rank in pugilistic classes, but is confined to the light and featherweight divisions. Freddie Welsh is the best lightweight that England has sent over here since the days of Jim Carney, it is said. He is scientific, quick, plucky and a solid puncher. McFarland apparently does not want any of Welsh's game, so he the Briton will doubtless be Nelson's next opponent in a forty-five round mill for the championship.

In Jim Driscoll England has sent a stalling featherweight here—a better man than Ben Jordan, it is believed, or any other Briton at the weight. Driscoll is clever, yet a fighter from his head to his heels. He is the recognized champion of England and will probably fight Atell soon for the world's title. Owen Moran, another English "feather," has already demonstrated his worth by fighting two drawn battles with Atell in each of which Moran insisted that he should have had the decision. Charley Griffin of Australia is another high class featherweight but he does not begin to class with the memorable Young Griffin, who when he came here a dozen years ago as the best "feather" in the Antipodes was promptly pro-

claimed the greatest boxer in the world.

To offset some of these statements some ring followers say that when Stanley Ketchel has developed into a first class heavy weight and has beaten Burns, Johnson or Kaufman in a battle for the championship of the world America will once again prove that her pugilists are the best in the universe. Ketchel, a white man, is an American born and brought up. Burns is a French Canadian—New York Sun.

**Jury Tests Woman's Hair.**  
At the continuation of the trial yesterday of Mrs. Helen B. Williams, or

Abrams, as she claims to be, on a charge of perjury proffered by Pawnbroker Samuel Abrams, the defendant was recalled to the stand by her counsel to show she had made no artificial change in her personal appearance since her alleged arrest on a charge of keeping a disorderly house. Mrs. Williams denied that she used hair dyes, and at the direction of Attorney Westcott she removed her hat and entered the jury box. Some of the jurors were surprised with a superficial glance at Mrs. Williams' auburn locks, but one elderly juror subjected the hair to an almost microscopic examination, taking particular notice to the left side of her head, which Assistant District Attorney Gray declared very "steaky."—Philadelphia Record.

## State Board of Health Gave Information About Scarlet Fever

"Scarlet Fever is a contagious disease, which is most liable to attack children under ten years of age. It is a disease, however, which is not so liable to do so as are children. The disease appears with varying degrees of severity; it may cause the death of the child within a day, or it may be so mild that the child does not feel sick enough to go to bed. But, be it mild or severe, it is the same disease, and often may assume a most virulent form in a person who has been exposed to a very mild case. The milder forms of the disease are sometimes called Scarlatina, or Scarlet Rash, but these names should deceive no one; the disease is Scarlet Fever, and the final results to the patient or to the community may be as serious as those from the worst forms of the disease. One attack of Scarlet Fever usually protects the patient from further attacks."

**"Symptoms of Scarlet Fever."**  
The early symptoms of scarlet fever are usually slight fever or a chill, the child may complain of headache or backache. Within a few hours the throat may become sore. Vomiting is one of the commonest of the early symptoms in children. The fever may go very high within a few hours. Within twelve or twenty-four hours the rash begins to appear. It shows earliest upon the neck, and under the collar bones, gradually spreading over the body. The color of the eruption may vary, and only a physician of experience should be relied on to make a diagnosis of scarlet fever.

**"How Scarlet Fever Originates."**  
All cases of scarlet fever come, directly or indirectly, from some previous cases of the disease, just as a crop of wheat can only come from seed wheat. Hog pens, filth, sewer gas and the like can lower the general tone of the health of a community, but they cannot cause scarlet fever, unless there is a previous case of the disease, by which it may be spread. Although no one has yet discovered the germ of scarlet fever, there is little doubt but that such a germ causes the disease; and, when the germ is a length found, the fight to stamp out the disease will be much easier.

"The spread of scarlet fever is due, in every instance, to carelessness. If proper precautions were taken, and if suitable quarantine measures were adopted this disease would disappear from the earth. The contact of healthy children with other children who have recently had, scarlet fever in some form, causes the spread of the disease. The exact manner of contagion is not fully understood, but until that has been ascertained, all quarantine regulations should be based upon the theory that contact, direct or indirect, spreads the disease. If a well child in any manner comes in contact with the discharge from the nose, throat, eyes or ears of a child suffering with scarlet fever, the well child will probably contract the disease. Even indirect contact may be equally dangerous. A child with scarlet fever may, while writing, place a pencil in its mouth, and, healthy child, using the same pencil, may contract the disease. Even clothing, toys, books and the like, which have been used by the sick child, may spread scarlet fever to the well child who has not been near the sick child. Fortunately, this is not a universal rule, and the exceptions to it have often led people to disregard all quarantine regulations. Such disregard is usually paid for in numerous and, frequently, in fatal cases of the disease.

"While scarlet fever does not always result fatally, its effects are generally most serious. Some injury will appear in the child, even when the disease itself has disappeared. Complete deafness not infrequently follows directly upon scarlet fever. Nor are these injuries always at once manifest; sometimes years may elapse before they appear. For example, a large number of severe cases of kidney and heart affections, appearing in adults, result from cases of scarlet fever in childhood. These dread after effects can follow even the mildest forms of the disease, hence it is never safe to expose a child to scarlet fever. In the hope that it will have a mild attack and will then be immune. There is no reason why the child should ever have the disease. Exposure to a mild case may result in a fatal illness or in lifelong injury to the child exposed."

**"Quarantine Measures."**  
Unless means are taken to combat scarlet fever when it appears in a community, it may spread rapidly and do incalculable damage in a short time. The measures necessary to check the disease are troublesome, but they are trifling compared with the danger to the community, and will save much greater trouble and suffering without great expense.

"The absolute isolation of every suspicious case is the first essential to combat scarlet fever. The sick person should be placed at once in a separate room as far as possible from other persons in the house. The nurse or attendant should remain in the room with the patient until recovery is complete, and the patient is discharged. No one except the physician and the nurse should come near the patient until the quarantine is raised. Furthermore, the quarantine should not be raised until the skin of the patient ceases to peel or to scale, and until all discharge from the ears, nose, etc., have stopped. The feet, the ankles and the palms of the hands should be carefully examined before the patient is discharged, as these are usually the last to peel. These precautions are of vital importance, since the disease may be spread as long as there is any peeling of the skin or any discharge from the parts mentioned above. Again, all old linen or rags, and should be promptly burned. The bed-linen, clothing, soiled dishes and all other things which have come in contact with the patients should be rolled up in a clean cloth or put directly into a wash-bowl. No person, other than the nurse, should touch any of these articles until they have been thoroughly boiled."

"While the case is being isolated, the rest of the household should be quarantined. None of the other children should be permitted to attend school or to leave the premises, and none of the family should go to church or Sunday-school, into crowded stores, or to any place where children are apt to be found. None of the family should work in a place where there are children during this period of quarantine. Inasmuch as the disease may be spread through the entire community by milk and other market products, it is essential that no milk or other food-stuffs should be permitted to leave any premises where there is scarlet fever."

"During an epidemic of scarlet fever, there are cases where no rash appears, or so little as not to be noticed, and where the only sign of the disease is sore-throat. Such cases should be carefully watched. To this end all schools, factories and other buildings where children congregate should be closely inspected. All children with sore throat should be promptly excluded from school, until a final diagnosis of their complaint has been made. It must be remembered that it is useless to quarantine severe cases of scarlet fever if mild cases are not regarded. It cannot be too strongly stated that the mild cases are as dangerous to the community as are the most virulent cases. If there is scarlet fever in your neighborhood, keep your child away from the house where it is and away from the children who have come in contact with it."

"If there is a great deal of scarlet fever in your neighborhood, keep your child from school and from church and Sunday-school."

**"An Ounce of Prevention, etc."**  
If you have any reason to suspect that there is a case of scarlet fever or of any contagious disease in your neighborhood that is not properly isolated, call the attention of your local health officer to it. Where there is no local health officer, or where your complaint does not receive attention, write to this department, stating your full name and address. All communications to this department are confidential, and anonymous communications cannot be noticed."

**"Fumigation and Disinfection."**  
In addition to the precautions to be followed during the illness, certain other precautions must be taken after the patient is discharged. In a word, everything that has been in the sickroom or in contact with the patient should be thoroughly disinfected. When the patient is ready to be discharged, he should disrobe, bathe thoroughly with soap and water, and then rub his entire body, the hair included, with 15.000 Bichloride solution. The patient should then wrap in a clean sheet, and, leaving all his clothing behind, should go to another room and dress in clothing which has not been in the sickroom, or else has been thoroughly disinfected since it has been removed from the room.

"No one should then enter the sickroom until it has been fumigated by some person designated for that purpose. After the room has been fumigated it should be sunned and aired for several days. It should finally be carefully scrubbed with soap and water, and its wood-work should be well washed. Articles of no value which remained in the sickroom during the patient's illness, should be burned. Fumigation is never perfectly satisfactory. Everything possible should be boiled or burned."

**"Too Much Advice."**  
"You've got to put a certain amount of dependence on yourself," said Uncle Eben. "De man dat goes around looking for too much advice is liable to find himself in de position of de kumman dat gits so interested readin' de time table dat he misses his train."

To speak or write nature did not peremptorily order thee; but to work, she did.—Thomas Carlyle.

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Neat Figured and Stripe Designs, 12 1-2c, 15c to 25c.

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**How Long is Fire to be Regarded as a "Necessary Evil"?**

"How long shall we, as a nation, continue to make good the vulgar boast that we have money to burn?" asks Samuel Hopkins Adams of Everybody's readers in his article "Burnt Money," in the January number. "Surely we have, with our billion dollars given to flame and smoke in the past ten years, sufficiently established our supremacy in wastefulness. The idea has taken root from a bad upon is that fire is a 'necessary evil.' A lachrymose allocation, that! A responsibility-shifting lie, paralleling the 'dispensation of Providence' dodge. But America, in this age of

crowling thoughtfulness and analysis, is beginning to exhibit symptoms of nausea over its 'necessary evils,' and happily, in the progress of time, the overwhelming destructive and costly one of fire wastage may go over the top with such others of its kind as industrial murder, tuberculosis and typhoid, and rotten politics."

### Patience Education.

What the modern child lacks most is the power of observation. He is saturated with smatterings of every kind of knowledge, lives a strenuous life and cannot find time for observation and assimilation.—Madrid Mundo.

**Nurseries and Influences.**  
Countries and families are but nurseries and influences. A man is a father, a mother, a German, a Roman, an American; but beneath all these relations, he is a man. The end of his human destiny is not to be the best German, or the best Roman, or the best father, but the best man he can be.—George William Curtis.

**Be Yourself.**  
Shake off the stamp of artificiality; don't let yourself be tagged by conventionality. Be yourself. Respect life more than things and you will be happy and contented in the night of a noble manhood.

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